

Clarence H. Carter, Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 29, 2013

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DES Celebrates Child Support Awareness Month, focus on service to the community

Family event planned to encourage parental involvement

PHOENIX – The Department of Economic Security (DES) recognizes August as National Child Support Awareness Month, an opportunity to emphasize the vital role parents play in providing children the physical, mental and emotional support needed to grow into happy, healthy individuals.

“Support and involvement from both parents in a child’s life sets the foundation for a promising future,” said Director Clarence Carter. “Our goal is to provide comprehensive services to individuals and families in need to help them reach their highest potential.”

The Department recently changed the name of the Division of Child Support *Enforcement* to the Division of Child Support *Services* to better reflect the desire of positive customer engagement and services it provides to parents.

“The name change to Child Support Services better reflects and captures the overarching work the Division performs, which aligns with our Person-Centric Transformation to provide comprehensive services to individuals and families in need,” said Director Clarence Carter. “One simple, but significant change can reframe the entire perception of what we do. By changing the Division title to a service orientation, we can continue to communicate our vision of improving the lives of Arizonans who are in need of assistance.”

The Department will hold the first Family Connection Fun Day in partnership with the Boys and Girls Club of the East Valley. The event is free and open to the public and will be held on Saturday, August 10, 2013, at the East Valley Boys and Girls Club Tempe Ladmo Branch, located at 715 W. 5th Street in Tempe. The event will run from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Several community organizations including Starbucks Coffee, Tempe St. Luke’s Hospital, the Tempe Fire Department, Ecto Critterz and Bikers Against Child Abuse (B.A.C.A.) will be on hand to sponsor games, informational booths, arts and crafts, face-painting and other activities. Participants will also have the opportunity to enter to win raffle prizes, including admission to Big Surf Water Park and tickets to “Seussical the Musical.”

To view Governor Brewer’s Child Support Awareness Proclamation, [click here](#). For media inquiries relating to the event, please contact the DES Office of Communications at (602) 542-4296 or PIO@azdes.gov.

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